
November 15-16, 2005

The Medicare Advantage program for 2006

ISSUE: There are several important changes for the Medicare Advantage (MA) program in 2006 including new allowable plan types, a new bidding process, and the introduction of Medicare Part D benefits.

KEY POINTS: Information on MA plan offerings for 2006 is now available.

- MA plans will be more widely available than in the past
- In general, beneficiaries will have more choices available
- Regional PPOs will be available to most beneficiaries
- Plans that include the Part D drug benefit will be widely available

ACTION: Staff will summarize plan offerings. Commissioners will discuss findings, comment on and suggest further analyses.

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